

Message Text

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14-11

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NIC-01 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02

ACDA-05 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 DODE-00 H-02 NSC-05

SS-15 /058 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8989

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION USBERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 05034

E.O. 11652: GDS

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TAGS: PFOR, NATO UR, GE

SUBJECT: V-E DAY CELEBRATIONS

REF: BONN 4879

SUMMARY: UK BONN GROUP REP HAS INFORMED US AND FRENCH THAT SOVIETS IN LONDON HAVE FOLLOWED UP EARLIER APPROACH TO CALLAGHAN WITH FORMAL EXTENSION OF INVITATIONS TO 30TH ANNIVERSARY EVENTS SET FOR MOSCOW. SOVIET REP TOLD FCO THAT US AND FRANCE ALREADY HAVE ACCEPTED USSR INVITATIONS. END SUMMARY.

1. AT MARCH 26 TRIPARTITE MEETING, UK REP (CULLIMORE) SAID HE HAD JUST RECEIVED MESSAGE FROM LONDON INFORMING OF MARCH 21 AND MARCH 25 APPROACHES BY SOVIET MINISTER COUNSELOR. SOVIET SAID ON MARCH 21 HE WAS AUTHORIZED TO EXTEND INVITATION FOR UK OFFICIAL DELEGATION TO ATTEND 30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS IN MOSCOW. HE SAID LEVEL AND COMPOSITION OF UK DELEGATION WAS TO BE DETERMINED BY BRITISH, BUT EMPHASIZED THAT IT MUST HAVE OFFICIAL CHARACTER AND NOT INCLUDE ONLY WAR VETS. ON MARCH 25 MIN-COUN FOLLOWED UP EARLIER APPROACH, URGING QUICK POSITIVE REPLY FROM BRITISH. HE SAID AMERICANS AND FRENCH HAD ALREADY AGREED AND PRESIDENT PODGORNÝ HAD SENT INVITATIONS TO PRESIDENTS FORD AND GISCARD. SOVIET MIN-COUN STATED THAT PODGORNÝ WOULD SEND FORMAL INVITATION TO QUEEN AFTER UK AGREEMENT RECEIVED. CULLIMORE SAID IT WAS NOT CLEAR WHAT SOVIET MIN-COUN HAD MEANT ABOUT PODGORNÝ'S SENDING INVITATIONS TO HEADS OF STATE, BUT IT APPEARED THESE WOULD BE FOR OFFICIAL DELEGATIONS AND NOT PERSONAL INVITATIONS. UK POSITION HAD BEEN TO SEND ONLY VETS BUT LONDON WILL RECONSIDER IF US AND FRANCE HAVE, INDEED, AGREED TO SEND OFFICIAL DELEGATIONS. CULLIMORE SAID UK EMBS WASHINGTON AND PARIS WOULD BE CONTACTING USG AND GOF.

2. FRENCH REP (BOISSIEU) SAID HE WAS AWAITING DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS ON 30TH ANNIVERSARY, WHICH HE EXPECTED TO RECEIVE VERY SOON. HE NOTED THAT DURING FEB 26 (SEE REFTTEL) CALL BY SOVIET AMBASSADOR ON QUAI SEC GEN HE HAD EMPHASIZED NEED FOR QUICK FRENCH REPLY AND HAD STATED CONFIDENTIAL

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THE US AND UK HAD ALREADY AGREED. BOISSIEU SAID THAT QUAI'S VIEWS AS OF MARCH 7 HAD BEEN:

- A) NO PROBLEM IN PARTICIPATING IN EVENTS WITH SPECIFIC MILITARY CHARACTER, E.G., EXCHANGE OF VETS;
- B) SOVIET OFFICIALS COULD BE INVITED TO ANY EVENTS ORGANIZED IN FRANCE;
- C) NO OBJECTION IN PRINCIPLE TO RESPONDING TO MESSAGES SENT BY BREZHNEV OR PODGORNÝ TO PRESIDENT

GISCARD; BUT

D) THERE NO REASON FOR FRENCH PARTICIPATION IN
"POLITICAL CAMPAIGN." IF VIEW SHARED BY US/UK,
QUAI'S FIRST THOUGHT WAS TO REFUSE TO SEND TO USSR
DURING ENTIRE PERIOD OF CELEBRATION OFFICIALS WHOSE
PRESENCE THERE MIGHT BE EXPLOITED BY SOVIETS.
HILLENBRAND

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